



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Bianchi, E. et al.

Serial No.: 09/856,886

Case No.: ITT0013P

Art Unit: 1648

Filed: July 26, 2001

Examiner: Brown, Timothy M

For: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOUNDS FOR  
THE INHIBITION OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS  
NS3 PROTEASE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the restriction requirement mailed November 17, 2005:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.

37 C.F.R. 1.8 Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.

By

*Sheldon O. Heber*

Date December 13, 2005

Sheldon O. Heber